



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

— *Lee Holloway* —
Chairman of the Board

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BOARD LIKELY TO OVERRIDE MANY OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S VETOES

Vetoed would lay off blue-collar workers who contribute to the local economy

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement in response to the County Executive's vetoes of portions of the 2009 County Budget:

“While I appreciate that the County Executive says he wants to work with members of the County Board, realistically speaking, these are the same types of vetoes he issues every year. Who does the County Executive think he is fooling? While he is pretending to work with the County Board, he vetoed almost all of our efforts to adopt a responsible 2009 budget.

“The fact of the matter is the County Executive wants to lay off hundreds of blue-collar workers who make an honest living, pay their taxes, and contribute to the local economy. The County Board has shown passion for preserving core services at a minimal cost to taxpayers. We agreed to some of the County Executive's privatization efforts, but these vetoes do not show *his* willingness to work with *us* on many other issues, including the economic support call center, parks maintenance, mental health employees, courts and transit fares.

“The County Executive naively thinks the County can save money by contracting out certain services. He fails to realize that the private sector is not always cost effective. Costs for private contractors often exceed budgets. In fact, his veto of dozens of skilled trades positions and one grant writer position would likely lead to higher costs and lower revenues for Milwaukee County.

“It's likely that many of these vetoes will be overridden by the County Board on Wednesday. I am more than willing to meet with the County Executive to discuss the 2009 Budget, but he should be prepared to actually work with us, instead of unilaterally opposing our efforts. In fact, I even encourage the County Executive, if he truly wants to work with the Board, to start meeting with us now to discuss cooperative efforts on the 2010 County Budget.”

The County Board will consider overriding the County Executive's vetoes on Wednesday, November 19th at 1:30 p.m. in Room 200 of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

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